

## 10 Things to know about Thanksgiving

- 1) **It's the second Monday in October.** It's on a different date every year.
- 2) **It's a stat (legal or statutory) holiday.** Schools and most businesses will be closed. Some stores stay open and have holiday hours.
- 3) **It's not just for church members.** Though Thanksgiving was started to give thanks to God, people with no religion also celebrate Thanksgiving.
- 4) **The traditional meal is roast turkey.** The turkey is usually filled with stuffing made of bread and spices. Other things that make it a traditional meal are sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.
- 5) **If you're in charge of buying the turkey, you need to do it at least a week before Thanksgiving Day.** It can be very hard to find a turkey in the stores a few days before Thanksgiving. Frozen turkeys can take several days to defrost.
- 6) **Canadian Thanksgiving is different from U.S. Thanksgiving.** It's earlier and it began as a celebration of the fall harvest.
- 7) **No one expects a card or a gift.** You may see Thanksgiving cards in the stores, but sending cards is not a custom as it is at Christmas time.
- 8) **Thanksgiving is important to children.** If you have children in school, they'll hear a lot about Thanksgiving. They will make Thanksgiving art projects and hear about other families' celebrations. They will probably be happy to help you get ready for the holiday.
- 9) **Canadians expect to spend Thanksgiving Day with their families.** People may visit relatives out of town. Anyone who works on the Thanksgiving must be paid extra money.
- 10) **The most important thing to remember is that it is a day to enjoy.** It is about being thankful for the good things in your life. And there are lots of good things about life in Canada.